# Linda S. Adams Secretary for

Environmental Protection

### **Air Resources Board**

Mary D. Nichols, Chairman 1001 I Street • P.O. Box 2815 Sacramento, California 95812 • www.arb.ca.gov



#### **NOTICE: CHANGE IN MEETING ROOM**

#### **AB 32: California Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006**

## Public Meeting to Discuss Criteria for Compliance Offsets in a California Cap-and-Trade Program

**Topic and Purpose:** The Air Resources Board (ARB) seeks your input on the development of an offset program as part of the cap-and-trade rulemaking process. In an offset program, entities may develop individual projects to achieve greenhouse gas (GHG) emission reductions or removals from activities in sectors not subject to an emissions cap. These projects can generate "offsets," i.e. verified reductions of emissions whose ownership can be transferred and used for compliance in the capped sectors. The cap-and-trade rulemaking will establish appropriate rules for use of offsets.

ARB invites you to participate in a public meeting to discuss criteria for ensuring the quality of offsets used in a California cap-and-trade program. AB 32 establishes basic criteria for offset quality: any reduction of GHG emissions used for compliance purposes must be real, permanent, quantifiable, verifiable, enforceable, and additional (HSC §38562(d)(1) and (2)). The rules for offset use must establish a basis for determining whether these criteria are met in order to ensure that offsets used for compliance within the cap-and-trade program represent credible emission reductions.

At this public meeting, ARB staff seeks your comments on our preliminary approach for establishing rules in the California cap-and-trade program to determine whether offsets meet the AB 32 requirements. ARB staff will be accepting public comment on this topic and requests that comments be provided no later than May 21, 2009.

#### Where and When is the Meeting?

This meeting will be held at Cal/EPA Headquarters in Sacramento and will also be webcast.

Date: Tuesday, April 28, 2009 Time: 9:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Location: Sierra Hearing Room, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Address: Cal/EPA Headquarters Building

1001 "I" Street

Sacramento, CA 95814

**WEBCAST LINK** (see details below)

The energy challenge facing California is real. Every Californian needs to take immediate action to reduce energy consumption. For a list of simple ways you can reduce demand and cut your energy costs, see our website: <a href="http://www.arb.ca.gov">http://www.arb.ca.gov</a>.

California Environmental Protection Agency

All Interested Parties April 21, 2009 Page 2

#### More Information on Public Meetings

This meeting initiates a discussion of criteria for offset quality in a cap-and-trade program. ARB is scheduling other public meetings to discuss cap-and-trade program design issues including but not limited to reporting, market operations, cap setting, and allowance distribution. ARB will post these meetings on the ARB website at: <a href="http://www.arb.ca.gov/cc/capandtrade/capandtrade.htm">http://www.arb.ca.gov/cc/capandtrade/capandtrade.htm</a>.

#### **Meeting Materials**

ARB will post meeting materials and an agenda prior to the workshop at <a href="http://www.arb.ca.gov/cc/capandtrade/meeting/meetings.htm">http://www.arb.ca.gov/cc/capandtrade/meeting/meetings.htm</a>. At this website, you may also join our electronic mailing list to receive further notices of ARB activities and public meetings related to the implementation of AB 32.

#### Can't Make It to the Meeting?

ARB will webcast this meeting. Viewers can email written comments or questions during the session to <a href="mailto:ccworkshops@arb.ca.gov">ccworkshops@arb.ca.gov</a>. Webcast links are posted at <a href="http://www.calepa.ca.gov/broadcast/">http://www.calepa.ca.gov/broadcast/</a>. ARB recommends that you do not run other programs while viewing the webcast, as it may interrupt or lower the quality of the signal.

#### **Directions to Cal/EPA**

There are many ways to arrive at the Cal/EPA Headquarters Building. We encourage you to take public transportation or drive low emission/high efficiency vehicles whenever possible. Use the following link for directions and information on public transit: <a href="http://www.calepa.ca.gov/EPAbldg/location.htm">http://www.calepa.ca.gov/EPAbldg/location.htm</a>

#### **Special Accommodations or Language Assistance**

If you require special accommodations or language needs, please contact Brieanne Aguila at (916) 324-0919 or <a href="mailto:baguila@arb.ca.gov">baguila@arb.ca.gov</a> as soon as possible. TTY/TDD/Speech to Speech users may dial 711 for the California Relay Service.

#### We Value Your Input

We welcome and encourage your participation in this important effort. If you have any questions, please contact Brieanne Aguila, ARB Office of Climate Change, at (916) 324-0919 or <a href="mailto:baguila@arb.ca.gov">baguila@arb.ca.gov</a>.

Sincerely,

Kevin Kennedy, Chief Program Evaluation Branch Office of Climate Change